

# We Can't Afford the Afghanistan War

The U.S. is in the grip of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. We need to be focused on putting people back to work here at home instead of wasting tax dollars on a futile war in Afghanistan. Here's a quick look at the cost of the war.

## **\$1 Million Per Troop, Per Year**

Cost of maintaining U.S. forces in Afghanistan.<sup>1</sup>

## **\$445.1 Billion**

Direct cost of Afghanistan War since 2001.<sup>2</sup>

## **\$ 2 Billion**

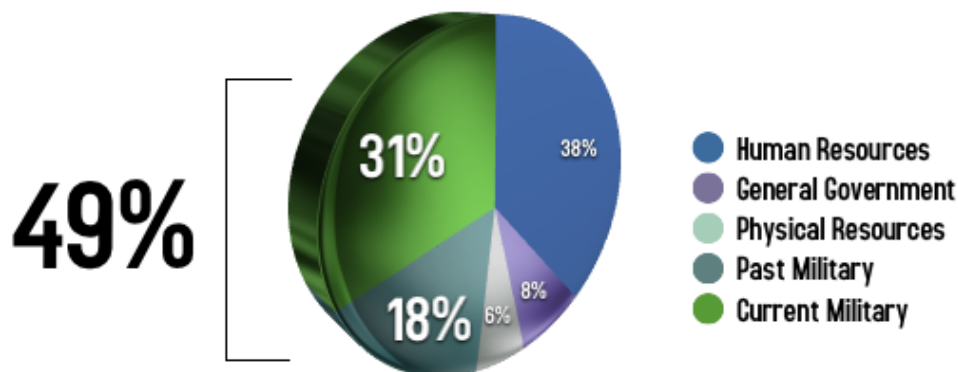
Weekly direct cost of Afghanistan War per week in 2011.

## **A Better Way**

"[Greg] Mortenson says that \$243 million is needed to fund all higher education in Afghanistan this year. He suggests that America hold a press conference here in Kabul and put just 243 of our 100,000 soldiers ([each costing \\$1 million per year](#)) on planes home. Then the U.S. could take the savings and hand over a check to pay for Afghanistan's universities."

--Nicholas Kristoff, *The New York Times*, October 20, 2010.

## How Much of Your Income Taxes Pay for War?



Source: War Resisters League, 2011. <http://goo.gl/P7OHa>

<sup>1</sup> New York Times, November 14, 2009. [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/15/us/politics/15cost.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/15/us/politics/15cost.html?_r=1)

<sup>2</sup> National Priorities Project, 2011. <http://costofwar.com/es/tradeoffs/>

**What You Can Do:** Call your Member of Congress at 202.224.3121 and tell them you want them to act now to bring troops home. Leaflet with this one-pager to help convince your neighbors it's time to bring troops home. Encourage them to watch the Rethink Afghanistan documentary online for free at [RethinkAfghanistan.com](http://RethinkAfghanistan.com).